GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:894
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2006
NUTRITION PROGRAMMES FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main objective of the Nutrition Programmes for Adolescent Girls(NPAG) Scheme and extent to which the same has been achieved;

(b) the number of girls covered under the Scheme during the last three years and the amount allocated for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the NPAG during 2006-2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve 100 percent nutrition for adolescent girls ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) was launched by the Planning Commission as a pilot project in 51 backward districts during 2002-03. The main objective of the Project is to reduce the magnitude of under nutrition in adolescent girls. In order to know the impact of the scheme, an evaluation study of NPAG has been entrusted to Nutrition Foundation of India (NFI), New Delhi. The Study is likely to be completed in another three months or so.

(b) Details of amount released and number of girls covered under the Project during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2005-06, to the extent available are given in the statement enclosed at Annexure-I. A sum of Rs. 53.96 crore, Rs. 40.04 crore and Rs. 63.76 crore have been released to States during the year 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2005-06 respectively. Contunuation of NPAG in 2004-05 was not approved.

(c) Implementation of NPAG during the year 2006-07 has already been approved by the Government.

(d) A sum of Rs. 162.77 crore, as Central Assistance (100% Grant) to States/UTs have been earmarked for the scheme in the annual plan 2006-07 against which a sum of Rs. 61.20 crore has been released to States so far. State-wise details are given in the statement at Anncxure-II.

(e) The mandate of the Project is to provide 6 kg. of food-grains per beneficiary per month (not 100% nutrition) to under nourished adolescent Girls (weight < 35 kg). There is constant emphasis on States to ensure effective implementation of the Project and to cover as many undernourished adolescent girls as possible as per approved norms of the Project.